

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Poland REPORT

TOPIC Military information from Gleiwitz (Gliwice)

EVALUATION _____ PLACE OBTAINED _____ 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT _____

DATE OBTAINED _____ DATE PREPARED 14 June 1954

REFERENCES _____ 640144

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED

1. Prior to November 1953, the buildings of the dismantled radio transmitter on the southwestern perimeter of Gleiwitz (Q 51/Y 37) were occupied by a Polish division headquarters, according to a worker employed there. Local residents also referred to the buildings as a division headquarters. A general and 2 lieutenant colonels, as well as numerous other Polish officers, were repeatedly seen at the installation. 1
2. Prior to late October 1953, Polish troops wearing red cap bands were observed in the former Infanterie Kaserne on the western perimeter of the town on the southwest side of former Ludendorff Strasse. Up to 4 T-34/85 tanks were repeatedly seen in, and outside of the installation, which appeared to be occupied to capacity. Source repeatedly observed an undetermined number of guns in the barracks yard, which he identified as model 1942 and model 1939 76-mm guns. The installation included large vehicle sheds. 2 The Neue Artillerie Kaserne adjoining the Infanterie Kaserne to the southwest housed a chemical plant. 25X1
3. Prior to November 1953, the former Keith Kaserne on the southwest side of ul. Kosciuszki, formerly Friedrich Strasse, in the southwestern section of the town, was occupied by Polish troops who wore red cap bands. Source did not observe any heavy weapons. The unit was equipped with numerous two- and three-axle trucks. Numerous motorcycles, including many sidecar motorcycles, were observed near the installation which, source believed, was occupied by troops in at least battalion strength. 3
4. Prior to November 1953, the former Ulanen Kaserne in the southwestern section of the town was occupied by an estimated 200 border guard troops. Trucks carrying army troops, who wore red cap bands, were repeatedly seen leaving the installation for exercises. Source observed no weapons other than infantry weapons. 4 25X1
5. After the fall maneuvers of the Polish troops, several shipments of tanks were detained at the Gleiwitz freight station. The tanks remained at the post. However, source was not able to determine at which installation the tanks were stationed. It was rumored that the tanks had come from Oppeln (P 51/J 17). 5 Source stated that a road, similar to an autobahn, had been constructed in Labander Wald (woods), north of the town. The road was used for test runs of tanks constructed at the Laband Steel Works. Production of the steel works did not include guns. Source learned that the plant produced 3 to 4 T-34 tanks a week. 25X1

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6. During the return of Polish troops from maneuvers in September 1953, 12 to 15 vehicles, which source referred to as "self-propelled mounts" were observed. The vehicles consisted of a T-34 chassis mounting a gun presumably of 76-mm caliber with a protective shield. On either side of the tank hull, there were steel plates, about 60 to 70 cm high designed as cover for the gun crews. Source stated that the vehicles, which appeared to be makeshifts, were not SP guns. Source estimated the extent of traverse of the guns at about 30 degrees to each side. 6
7. Prior to November 1953, a Soviet office was located on the northeast side of ul. Kosciuszka, at the corner of former Schwerin Strasse, opposite the municipal hospital. Two field-grade officers were repeatedly observed at the office. Source did not know any other Soviet installations at the post.
8. In the spring of 1953, construction work on a polytechnic school building started at "Plac Krakowski", formerly Platz der SA. The school was still quartered at the former Polizei Kaserne on the east side of Stadtwald Strasse, south of the cemetery. 25X1
9. A depot with a spur track, which was constructed in 1951 and was guarded by Polish troops, was located on the east side of former Goethe Strasse about 500 meters northwest of the autobahn entrance. Large boxes and iron sections were observed at the installation, which was neither a ration supply depot nor a weapons and ammunition depot. An improved AAA emplacement, which was permanently occupied, was located in the area north of the autobahn.
1. [redacted] Comment. Compare with information furnished by another resettler. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted]. The headquarters may have been the Hq 7th Div.
2. [redacted] Comment. Source of reference report stated that the installation was occupied by a tank unit, an AAA unit and an AT unit. Further information is needed to definitely identify the occupation of the installation.
3. [redacted] Comment. Source may have observed elements of the 33d Inf Regt. The large number of motorcycles, however, tends to indicate that a reconnaissance unit was stationed there. There is the possibility that several units were stationed at the installation. 25X1
4. [redacted] Comment. It is undetermined whether, in addition to the border guard unit, other troops were stationed at the installation. [redacted] observed troops wearing blue cap bands. 25X1
5. [redacted] Comment. The tank unit is believed to have been stationed at the Infanterie Kaserne. The unit was probably organized from troops detached from the 10th Mech Div stationed in Oppeln. 25X1
6. [redacted] Comment. This type of weapon is reported for the first time. The guns may have been AT guns on self-propelled mounts. 25X1

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